



Speech by

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QUEENSLAND CANCER FUND; AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Mrs LAVARCH (Kurwongbah—ALP) (10.22 a.m.): Tomorrow morning, as the Leader of the Opposition tries to use question time to whip up a storm in a teacup and, as usual, the Premier leaves him jiggling and dangling, thousands of Queenslanders will be raising their teacups in support of the Queensland Cancer Fund. Billed as a most exciting social event, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea will be happening all over our nation. Supported by Lipton, hundreds if not thousands of hosts will be raising funds for vital cancer research, education and support programs for families by enjoying a cuppa with friends, family and work colleagues. All funds raised from morning teas held in Queensland will go to the Queensland Cancer Fund.

As I am sure members are aware, cancer is one of the leading causes of death in Queensland. On average, one in three men and one in four women are expected to develop cancer before the age of 74. The good news is: mortality from cancer is decreasing. Cancer is no longer the automatic death sentence that it once was. This is largely due to the improvements in early detection techniques.

The Queensland Cancer Fund has also played a major role in saving lives through its programs and commitment to research projects. As Brisbane is known as the melanoma capital of the world, the Queensland Cancer Fund's work in skin cancer prevention, through its Sunsmart campaign, is of particular importance.

The Queensland Cancer Fund deserves our support, and that is why I have registered as a host. I will be hosting a morning tea here at Parliament House and I invite all honourable members, their staff, parliamentary staff, family and friends to join me in the Speaker's courtyard. I thank you, Mr Speaker, and your wife, Dianne, for making this venue available. The idea of hosting a morning tea is to relax and have fun, all for a good cause. Divisions notwithstanding, we should be able to relax a little, have a cuppa and all show our commitment to the excellent work of the Queensland Cancer Fund and help it in its fight against cancer. I urge all members to come along and support this very worthwhile cause.
